

DESCENDANTS OF PETER COTTRELL
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Don Norman

Researching the Cottrill family is rendered somewhat difficult by the different spelling of the name. The older Cottrills were apparently casual spellers and the census recorders no better. The name is variously spelled Cotterell, Cottrill, Cottrell, Cottail, Cotrel and Coteral. At least one early Cottrell is also listed as "Cockrell" in various records.

The origin of the Virginia Cottrells has not been established. Old records in various places list Cottrells, but a connection is yet to be made. The "New England Historical Register" lists a Nicholas Cottrell as having landed in Connecticut in 1635.

The Latter Day Saints genealogical library records the marriage of a Thomas Cotterell to Martha Hacher May 25, 1709 at New Kent, St. Peters Parish in Virginia. The same source also records the christening of Thomas Cotterell at St. Peter's Parish April 22, 1711. This second Thomas is apparently a son of Thomas and Martha (Hacher) Cottrell, born prior to the christening date.

Other Cottrells are listed in the records of Charles, Baltimore, Dorchester and Prince George's counties as early as 1721.

1. PETER COTTRELL

Peter Cottrell was born about 1720 in Virginia. He is listed in various records as "Peter Cockrell", "Peter Cockrill", and "Peter Cottrell". A greater number of records use the "Cockrell" or "Cockrill" spelling, suggesting that the original name was probably Cockrill.

Peter married Priscilla Galloway in Baltimore County MD February 4, 1747. Apparently Priscilla died and Peter married Ann Hazelrigg. His third wife was Frances and her last name may have been Thorne.

Although we have no death date for Peter, his will is dated July 18, 1803 and reads as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Peter Cottrell of Prince William County Virginia being sick and weak in body, of sound and disposing mind and memory, knowing that it is appointed for all men to die, do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament, commanding my soul unto the hands of Almighty God, hoping alone for Salvation through the merits of Jesus Christ and my body to the dust to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my Executors. As to such Worldly Estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with I dispose thereof as follows.

Item. I lend unto my beloved wife Frances Cottrell (if she continues a widow and lives a chaste life) during her natural life the use of one third of the Plantation whereon I now live- also the use of a Negro man named Jacob and a Negro woman named Kate - also the use of one third of my Movable Estate (by Movable Estate, I mean to include property of every description except Land and Negroes).

Item. I give and bequeath unto each of my following children == William Cottrell, Thomas Cottrell, Eliza Lewis, Tabitha Cottrell, Drusilla Cottrell and George Cottrell to each and every one of them the sum of five shillings Sterling money of Great Brittan.

Item. As I have given John Cottrell and Elizabeth Cottrell their portions in land, therefore they are to have no part or parts of my Estate.

Item. I give and bequeath unto each of my daughters, Peggy Reid and Mary Kohn the sum of fifty dollars.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Nancy Cottrell one Negro girl named Hannah and her increase, one feather bed, bedstead & furniture, and one cow.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Daniel one Negro boy named Ben.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son Jeremiah Cottrell a Negro woman

named Nan.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son Jesse Cottrell after his mothers decease or Marriage as the case may be the Negro woman Kate abovementioned together with all her increase except her first four children.

I give and bequeath unto my son Moses Cottrell the Tract of Land whereon I live. Also a piece of wood land lying between John and Elijah Cottrell also a Negro boy named Harry and a Negro girl named Fanny.

Item. Two third of my Movable Estate I give unto my sons Jesse Cottrell and Moses Cottrell to be equally divided between them. If one or either of them should die and leave no lawfully begotten heir behind them in that case I will that the Surviving part of the children begotten by my last wife shall divide the said two thirds of the Movable Estate equally.

Item. After my wifes decease I will that the one third of the Moveable Estate which she had the use of and the Negro man Jacob be equally divided between my sons Jesse and Moses.

Item. I have given each of my Daughters Peggy Reid and Mary Kohn Fifty Dollars and wish here to make this stipulation - Peggy Reid may have her choice the fifty dollars or a Negro girl named Maria - Peggy may either take the fifty dollars given above or Kates next child. If the money be preferred, the two Negro children shall divide amongst Nancy Cottrell, Sarah Daniel, Jesse Cottrell and Moses Cottrell. If the Negroes be preferred the money shall be divided amongst the said abovementioned four children equally. If one should choose the money and the other the Negro, then the remaining money and the remainnng Negro to be divided as above.

Item. My Executors may sell as much of the Movable Estate as will raise the sum of one hundred Dollars to be applied to paying the two Fifty Dollar legacies above, in case the money shall be preferred by the legatees in the choices above given.

Lastly. I Constitute and Appoint my sons Elijah Cottrell and Jesse Cottrell Executors of this my Last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and totally disallowing all wills made or Executors heretofore appointed by me.

Given under my hand and seal this 18 day of July one thousand eight hundred & three.

his
Peter P.C. Cottrell
mark

It is not definitely known which of Peter's wives are mothers of the various children. However, their ages suggest that Frances was the mother of five children.

Children of Peter Cottrell and his first wife.

2. (1). William
3. (2). Thomas
4. (3). Eliza
m.----- Jarvis
5. (4). Tabitha
6. (5). Drusilla
7. (6). Peggy
m.----- Reid
8. (7). John B.
9. (8). Elizabeth

10. (9). Nancy

11. (10). Sarah
m.----- Daniel

12. (1). Mary
m.----- Kohn

Children of Peter and Frances Cottrell.

13. (2). Elijah b.c. 1772 d.Mar 16 1824
m.Lavina Wilcoxon

14. (3). George b.c. 1775
m.Catherine Wilcoxon

15. (4). Jesse b.c. 1780 d.Apr 30 1841
m.Harriet Wilcoxon

16. (5). Moses b.c. 1782 d.Sep 28 1828
m.Sarah Jackson Jun 11 1807

17. (6). Jeremiah b.c. 1783

13.ELIJAH COCKRELL 1.PETER COTTRELL

Elijah Cockrell, a son of Peter and Frances Cottrell, was born in Prince William County VA about 1772 and died in Scioto County Ohio March 16, 1824. He married Lavina Wilcoxon.

Known children of Elijah and Lavina (Wilcoxon) Cockrell.

18. (1). John b.c. 1800
m.Priscilla Smith

18.JOHN COCKRELL 13.ELIJAH COCKRELL 1.PETER COTTRELL

John Cockrell, a son of Elijah and Lavina (Wilcoxon) Cockrell, was born about 1800. He married Priscilla Smith.

Known children of John and Priscilla (Smith) Cockrell.

19. (1). Elijah b.c. 1825
m.Sarah Maria Doyle

19.ELIJAH COCKRELL 18.JOHN COCKRELL 13.ELIJAH COCKRELL
1.PETER COTTRELL

Elijah Cockrell, a son of John and Priscilla (Smith) Cockrell, was born about 1825. He married Sarah Maria Doyle.

Known children of Elijah and Sarah Maria (Doyle) Cockrell.

20. (1). Mary alice
m.James Christian Goar